

CLAIMS

1 1. In a data processing system including a legacy data base management system having a
2 command language coupled to a publically accessible digital data communication network,
3 the improvement comprising:

4 a. a document formatted in XML (extensible markup language) transferred via said
5 publically accessible digital data communication network to said data base
6 management system; and

7 b. an Input Definition Table (IDT) responsively coupled to said legacy data base
8 management system which converts said document into a format acceptable to said
9 legacy data base management system.

1 2. The improvement according to claim 1 further comprising a Document Type Definition
2 (DTD) which defines the format of said document.

1 3. The improvement according to claim 2 wherein said IDT further comprises a plurality of
2 sequential text lines.

1 4. The improvement according to claim 3 wherein at least one of said plurality of sequential
2 text lines provides access constraints.

5. The improvement according to claim 4 further comprising a repository responsively coupled to said legacy data base management system wherein said IDT is stored within said repository.

6. An apparatus comprising:

- a. an XML document;
- b. a publically accessible digital data communication network;
- c. a data base management system having an input format different from XML responsively coupled to said publically accessible digital data communication network which receives said XML document via said publically accessible digital data communication network; and
- d. an Input Definition Table associated with said XML document which enables conversion of said XML document into said input format.

7. The apparatus of claim 6 further comprising a Document Type Definition (DTD) which defines a format of said XML document.

8. The apparatus of claim 7 wherein said data base management system includes a repository and said Input Definition Table is stored within said repository.

9. The apparatus of claim 8 wherein said Input Definition Table includes an access constraint.

1 10. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein said publically accessible digital data communication
2 system further comprises the Internet.

1 11. A method of interfacing an XML document to a data base management system having
2 an incompatible input protocol comprising:

- 3 a. transferring said XML document to said data base management system via a
4 publically accessible digital data communication network;
5 b. converting said XML document into an XML mapping tree in accordance with a
6 Document Type Definition (DTD) corresponding to said XML document;
7 c. converting said XML document using an Input Definition Table (IDT); and
8 d. presenting said parsed XML document to said data base management system
9 for processing.

1 12. A method according to claim 11 further comprising the step of saving said IDT for future
2 use.

1 13. A method according to claim 12 wherein said IDT is retrieved from storage.

1 14. A method according to claim 13 wherein said IDT further comprises an access
2 constraint.

1 15. A method according to claim 14 wherein said publically accessible digital data
2 communication network further comprises the Internet.

1 16. An apparatus comprising:

2 a. means for transmitting an XML document;

3 b. means for stating a IDT associated with said document;

4 c. means responsively coupled to said transmitting means for providing data base
5 management functions; and

6 d. means responsively coupled to said providing means for converting said XML
7 document into a format compatible with said providing means based upon said IDT.

1 17. An apparatus according to claim 16 wherein said parsing means further comprises
2 means for storing said IDT for future use.

1 18. An apparatus according to claim 17 wherein said IDT further comprises an access
2 constraint.

1 19. An apparatus according to claim 18 wherein said transmitting means further comprises
2 the Internet.

1 20. An apparatus according to claim 19 further comprising means for defining a format of
2 said XML document.